



CONNECTICUT

TESTIMONY OF
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB)
CONCERNING

SB-589, AA REQUIRING COMPANIES TO NOTIFY CONSUMERS OF UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO COMPUTER DATA;

HB-6566, AA ESTABLISHING A TAX CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS WHO PROVIDE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE IN EXCESS OF THE LEAVE REQUIRED BY LAW

BEFORE THE
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2015

A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB is Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business association. In Connecticut, NFIB represents thousands of members and their employees. NFIB membership is scattered across the state and ranges from sophisticated high technology enterprises to "Main Street" small businesses to single-person "Mom & Pop" shops that operate in traditional ways. NFIB's mission is "To promote and protect the right of its members to own, operate, and grow their businesses." On behalf of those small- and independent- job-providers in Connecticut, NFIB/Connecticut offers the following comments:

Regarding SB-589, NFIB/Connecticut feels that additional details are needed but would generally comment that small businesses take issues of data security very seriously. Small businesses work diligently to protect their own and their customer's data and digital assets. NFIB/Connecticut would, however, like to point out that one-size-fits-all requirements may not always be best as certain reporting burdens and other notification requirements could be more difficult for smaller businesses. In addition, NFIB/Connecticut wants to ensure that there is not any inadvertent or additional liability that could be imposed on small businesses as a result of this legislation. For example, a small business may be unaware that their customer data has even been accessed for a period of time. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

NFIB/Connecticut supports the intent of HB-6566. This bill, which would allow for a tax credit for employers who provide leave in excess of federal or state Family and Medical Leave Act requirements, is a step toward incentivizing and rewarding employers who are offering generous leave and benefits packages, as many small businesses often do. It is refreshing to see legislation that offers "a carrot" vs. "the stick" when approaching issues of employer/employee relations, mandates and benefits. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.